

in which M^{p+} is a cation selected from the group consisting of alkaline metals, alkaline earth metals, transition metals and ammonium groups, Y^- is an anion of an acid fulfilling the condition $0.5 \leq Pka \leq 14$, p is the valency of the cation and $n = m \times p$. A preferred catalyst is KSCN.

Ad Although the polymerization time is very significantly decreased when using such a salt catalyst, there is still a requirement to speed up the polymerization of any kind of episulfides without inducing striation and yellowness or without giving a run-away reaction.--

Appendix A contains the amended paragraph of page 3, lines 5-18 with appropriate editing indicia.

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to remove an incorrect patent number, revise for grammatical correctness in view of the corrections, and a correction of a minor typographical error at the third page. No new matter is introduced into the specification by these amendments.

Applicants determined upon review of the filed application that the filed application incorrectly cited to U.S. Patent No. 5,807,975 where it should have cited to co-pending U.S. Serial No. 09/748,053, filed December 22, 2000. In order to assure that no new matter is introduced into the specification by this amendment, Applicants have elected not to introduce U.S. Serial No. 09/748,053 into the specification. However, that application does support the salt catalysts described in the paragraph at page 3, lines 5-18. That serial number is made of record in the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement submitted simultaneously herewith.